

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (original). A method for protecting entry addresses, the method which comprises:

identifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction; and

storing, in a memory cell, an address of a correlated data item one of directly before and directly after the permissible entry address.

2 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises storing, in the memory cell, a reference to a data entry in a protected list of legal entry addresses one of directly before and directly after the permissible entry address.

3 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises directly jumping to the permissible entry address.

4 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises automatically checking whether the correlation of data is satisfied for a respective entry address, when a function call is carried out.

5 (currently amended). A method for protecting entry addresses, the method which comprises:

identifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction; ~~and~~

providing the correlation of data as a correlation with program data in non-reserved memory areas;

providing program instructions not exceeding a given maximum number n of bytes, n being an integer number; and

providing a specific no-operation code for avoiding random correlations.

6 (canceled).

7 (canceled).

8 (currently amended). The method according to claim 5 6, which comprises providing the correlation of data as a correlation between code data items, the code data items being at least n bytes away from one another.

9 (currently amended). ~~The method according to claim 5,~~  
~~which comprises:~~ A method for protecting entry addresses,  
the method which comprises:

identifying a permissible entry address by using a  
correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within  
a same individual instruction;

providing the correlation of data as a correlation with  
program data in non-reserved memory areas;

providing a specific byte sequence which cannot occur within  
a regular code; and

protecting the permissible entry address by inserting the  
specific byte sequence.

Appl. No. 09/829,328  
Amdt. Dated July 20, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of April 20, 2004

10 (original). The method according to claim 9, which  
comprises using a specific no-operation code as the specific  
byte sequence.

11 (canceled).